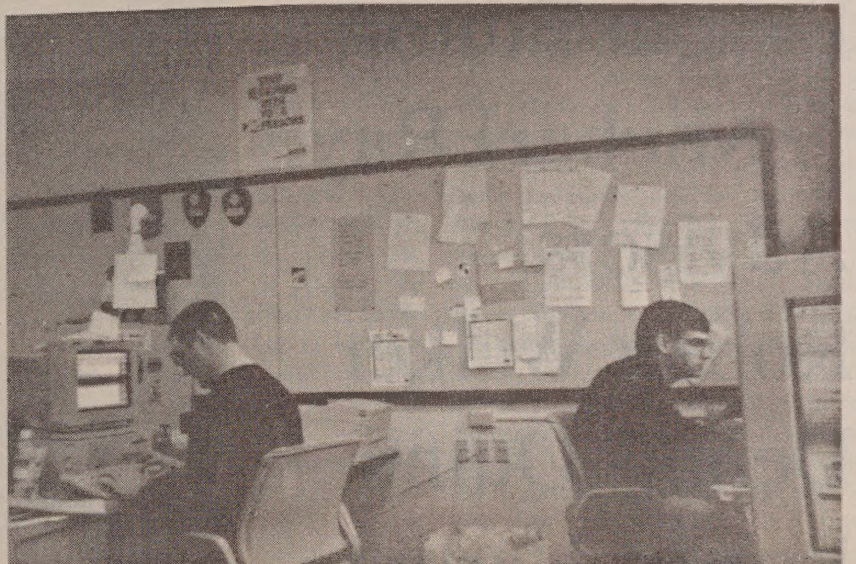
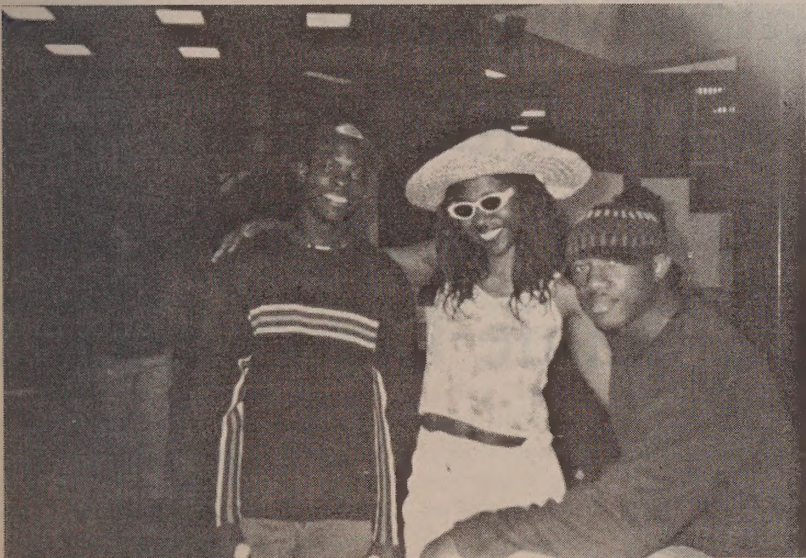


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THE STUDENT VOICE

Volume XXXII No. 20 - WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE - April 21, 2000

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The Student Voice of Worcester State College

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C o m m e n t a r y

Cool Runnings: Track Star Shines at Worcester State

Article written by Juan Matos

The man is cool and he runs. When Stanley Egbor graduated high school in Nigeria, he knew he wanted to study abroad. Eventually, Stanley chose the United States over the United Kingdom and thanks to the suggestion of professor Joshua Aisiku, enrolled as a freshman in Worcester State College. Even in the cold New England winter, his warm smile helped him gain new friends and ease the transition into campus life. Problems arose when Worcester State closed during Christmass and spring break; Stanley found himself with no place to go during these times and decided to move off campus.

Stanley's usually calm demeanor is most evident when he talks about his background. He has fond memories of a happy childhood in Nigeria, where his parents still reside. He talks gratefully about people who helped him adapt to life in the U.S.; Femi Qiekere and Emi Aikhoje, two students from Nigeria who came to Worcester State around the same time as Stanley and Carol Lambert, the International Student Advisor.

When the topic moves to track, his favorite topic, the calm and reserved Stanley is replaced by a more open and energetic version. He paces around the room, fidgets with a CD case and is unable to stand still for more than a microsecond. The smile does not fade as he taps into his memory. He ran track in high school in Nigeria, but his first outdoor season at Worcester State was plagued by injuries. Even though he was unable to perform as he expected, Stanley never thought about quitting. That changed in his second year after the indoor track season was over.

Stanley had never run indoors before and he found himself being just an average runner in the middle of the pack. He wanted to quit and focus on his studies; that would have saved him one year of eligibility and allow him to run while in graduate school. There was a crucial meeting with his coaches at the end of the indoor season; they understood his predicament and challenged him to run the 200 meters outdoors instead. The outdoor season started a week later and Stanley was finally healthy and ready for the challenge. He was nearly perfect, losing only once in all his Division III races. "All the other coaches wanted to beat me," Stanley says, but that was not going to happen. In the last two indoor races, Stanley logged his best times of the season; shattering the Worcester State records for the 100 and 200 meters. He qualified for the nationals in the last race.

The confidence he had built during the season was gone during the national competition. "I didn't feel I was good enough to be at the nationals, everyone was confident and I was just a rookie," he recalls. The lack of confidence was evident as he went on to finish in 11th place and failed to qualify for the finals. He was devastated. The coaches wanted to take him out for dinner that night, he went for a long run instead. "I can accept losing if I gave my best, but I couldn't accept losing if I had more to give," said Stanley while remembering that night. The support he recieved from friends, coaches and teammates helped him regain his edge and he began a to prepare for the indoor track season.

Stanley set his sights on the national indoor track meet. Once again, the

support was there but a new element had started to creep in; pressure. The expectations were high and Stanley began to feel it; a back injury he suffered that summer added to the level of expectancy as the season loomed closer. His personal goal was to break the school record, which he already owned, each time he ran. Stanley went on to break the record seven times, each race bringing him closer to the Nationals. He dominated indoor Division III track this past season. His teammates were behind him and after he was ranked number one, following record breaking performances at Tufts University and Wheaton College, even other teams started cheering for him. Stanley was finally healthy and focused and the coaches started taking him to more Division I races. Everything was going well for him, and then the storm came.

Inclement weather forced the Worcester State team to miss the Eastern Collegiate Academic Conference, a top ranked even that draws schools from all over the east coast. A week later, at the New England Track Meets, Stanley battled a stomach flu while placing third on the 55 meters and fourth on the 200 meters. "I felt I choked at big meets," he says of the pressure he was putting on himself. A friendly rivalry with Wayne Allen, a

runner from New York, made Stanley regain his intensity. Allen would travel to New England and try to beat Stanley on the track meets; he was always a close second. Then it happened; Allen blew away Stanley's time at a race that Stanley had missed. The two runners were now on even terms.

The second E.C.A.C meet would be taking place at Wheaton College, there would be runners from Maine down to Washington D.C. The stage was set for a



showdown. "That was the time," Stanley says, "if he was going to beat me, he had to do it now." Stanley struck the first blow, setting the fastest time in the first heat. Allen beat that time in the second heat, he places in the first heat of the semifinals and Stanley ends up in the second heat. The attention shifted, momentarily, to Allen and Stanley, until two runners from Washington D.C. upstaged them by posting the fastest times on both heats. That set up a final race between Stanley,

Allen and the two students from Washington.

Stanley wasn't fazed, even when other runners tried to delay the start of the race in order to create tension and make a runner false start. It felt good coming into the finals, says Stanley, and that's scary. The beginning of the race was close, and

Stanley realized that he was ahead even though he wasn't running as fast as he could. He finished in first place, running the 55 meters in 6.29 seconds, the fastest time in New England and 10th best in the nation. Even after running a stellar time in the 55 meters, Stanley needed encouragement from his coach in order to race the 200 meters. He finally decided to run and went on to run the best 200 meters time in New England, earning him a trip to Chicago for the Nationals.

"They treat you like a star, the reception, everything," Stanley says of being at the Nationals. "The next two days you have to sweat, be in shape and run a perfect race." Stanley finished 5th overall and earned All-American honors. The experience helped him reflect on what he has accomplished. "I'm one of eight people running. Seven other people know my name, know my school," he says. "It makes me feel good, but it makes me feel even better when I finish the race before they do." As he prepares for his final season, Stanley knows there are many people to support him. He fondly remembers words that Dean Paul Joseph told him not too long ago: "Track is a team sport built around an individual performance." Stanley has taken those words to heart, "I love my teammates, they are like my family. We have a lot of talent here," he says with a bright smile. "Mike Wyman, Rich, Hurley, Becky, Jacques, Ann, Sherri, Jeremy, Fritch. They give Worcester State all the points; I'm just a small part of it. We can be one of the top teams in New England." He points out that they placed third in the Worcester meet, behind Holy Cross (a Division I program) and W.P.I.

When I asked him about the future, Stanley says "All the people are looking out for Worcester State. I pray I have a lot of luck and make it to the Nationals." The next outdoor season will be the first one at Worcester State, and it's a sure bet that there will be more people rallying behind the track team. --

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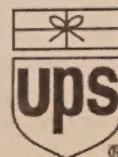
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On Campus Happenings

SGA Election Results

The SGA elections for WSC were held last week. The Student candidates would like to thank all who took the time to vote. Here are the results:

SGA President: Jen Robbins
SGA Trustee: Tiffany Dutkiewicz

Resident Senators: Elizabeth Holmes
Jennifer Lavallee
Jeff Roback
Rebecca Foley

Commuter Senators: Theo Dule
Jason Tucker

Class of 2001 Officers

President: Amy Hudon
Vice Pres.: Linda Stefanick
Secretary: Lee Anne Hooley
Treasurer: Chris Cutcliffe

2001 Senators

Lindsay Briggs
Jenn-E. Memnon
Sue Szpakowski
Aimee Caminiti

2002 Class Officers

President: Nadia Saleh
Vice Pres.: Joan Rylander
Secretary: Stacy Hardy
Treasurer: Erica O'Connell

2002 Senators

Rebecca Boucher
Amy Walsh
Brian Boniface
Anthony Servideo

2003 Class Officers

President: Josh Katz
Vice Pres.: Monica Labbe
Secretary: Sarah Hann
Treasurer: Gina Ragaini

2003 Senators

Jess Cinelli
John Murphy
Tania Scott
Jon Foley

One last point of interest, MASSPIRG was looking for a "yes" vote to remain on campus. MASSPIRG received their "yes" vote.

Forums Held

Article written by John Brown III

Two Forums were held last week to discuss the ongoing investigation and the issues surrounding the lack of information regarding the alleged gang rape on campus last April. A Resident Forum with President Ghosh, Dean Joseph was held on Tuesday in the Dowden Hall lounge. About 25 residents were there to get answers to some of the many questions they have since this occurrence was made public. Many have similar concerns. Most wanted to know why the school took so long to inform the general population. Most wanted to know why the school felt such little responsibility for the students who currently reside on this campus. They wanted to know why there safety was not taken into consideration. President Ghosh stated that he is ultimately responsible for this. He stated that legal issues kept the school from acting sooner and also that a lack of knowledge to the seriousness of the alleged sexual assault. Well I for one am not glad to know that this school feels that only a gang rape appears to be a serious occurrence. How do the female students on Campus feel about this? I am happy I am a male and the chances are much smaller for a rape to occur to me. I feel for the women of this campus who have been assaulted or even raped during their stay here at WSC. I am not sure, if I were a female and it happened to me on this campus, if I would report it. The track record of this school says that a rape is only a minor occurrence.

A task force was formed by President Ghosh to investigate where the school went wrong. This task force met once already and decided to restructure itself. The task force will no longer look into what happened, but will look into making a better line of communication and stronger, more believable support system. Debbie Gaston and Lori Dawson are the two names I know of on campus to help out in this situation. I believe that Lori Brunelle is also available to any student who needs assistance after an occurrence of this nature.

The students at the Resident forum were very emotional with their line of questions, I know that even my emotions set me a little on edge. I asked a couple of questions to President Ghosh, and I felt that even I was a little too emotional. President Ghosh did not really answer any questions, he spent his time taking the political route and answered with the typical response of, I am looking into it. When we find out you will all be informed. "I am putting a task force into place to investigate who didn't do their job."

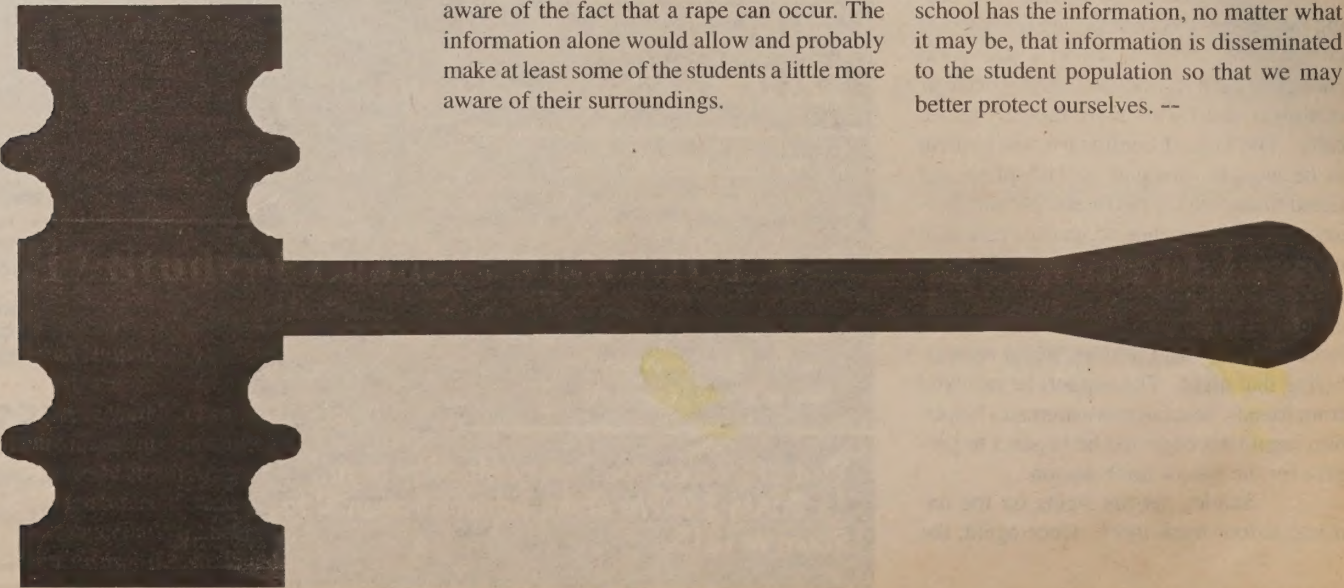
At the Commuter forum on Friday there were about 70 people in the North South Auditorium in the Student Center. One male who was present asked if students were looking for a "police state." He also stated, "You are responsible for yourself, this school is not responsible for what happens to you." This individual, I for one felt was a little misguided in his comments. Yes we are responsible for our own safety, but the school is responsible for maintaining a safe atmosphere and an information flow that allows students to remain aware of the fact that a rape can occur. The information alone would allow and probably make at least some of the students a little more aware of their surroundings.

From the forum at least one thing was made very clear, the school acted very slowly and made it possible for this to occur again. Without quick and severe repercussions people will get idea that it is OK to rape. The school needs to make people feel safer on this campus and the students need to be made aware of the stats. So here are the few that I know plus a few more I received on Friday at the commuter forum. The last one is a bit unsettling.

1 in 4 women on a college campus is raped. 1 in 3 on a college campus with a fraternity. An anonymous survey was done this past fall at WSC by the Psychology Department, it found that of the over 100 women who responded 18% had been the victim of a sexual assault or rape since coming to this campus in the fall.

Here are few things we all can do to make this a safer place and make this less likely to occur again: Always walk with friends at night. Utilize the Campus escort service. Do not do Homework with a "friend" alone. Make sure that there is someone else in the house or room you are studying in. Always let your friends know where you are and who you are with. Maybe even tell them when you expect to be home. Just make people aware of where you are. Let the person you are with know what time you are expected, if this changes tell them you need to call so that they do not get worried. Be aware of your surroundings, try to choose the library for studying. One suggestion from me for the school is, start a student escort service. If the Campus Police are unavailable. Make it so that two students, one male one female, escort any student who requests it.

It is our job as students to inform you of what we would like to see done to make this a better school. It is your job to take heed of some of the suggestions and implement them. So now the question is, What do we do from here? Let us not forget what happened last April but let us move forward to prevent it from occurring again. Fingers will be pointed in many directions, but only three people come to mind when we dish out responsibility. The Dean of Students unfortunately being one of them, he is responsible for making the student population aware of all occurrences good and bad on this campus. The Police Chief, who should have sought an advisory posting as soon as he was aware that an alleged incident had occurred and not waited until the T & G ran with it. Last but certainly not least, President Ghosh you said that in the end, that you are 100% responsible for this lack of information. President Ghosh did not stay on top of his people to make sure information was distributed. President Ghosh said this in the commuter forum on Friday. So President Ghosh is as, if not more, responsible for the lack of information given to the students. My understanding was that you always stand for "Students First", it appears in this case it was students last and image first. Let us make sure that when the school has the information, no matter what it may be, that information is disseminated to the student population so that we may better protect ourselves. --



Do You Wanna Dance?

Article written by John Brown III

On Friday April 28th The Semi-Formal will be held at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton. Obviously it is a popular event. As of this past Friday it is sold out. Make sure you wear your dancing shoes, there may be an incentive for you. How about a swing dance contest? If you are going stag, no problem, there will be plenty of singles there to share a dance with.

The Voice will sponsor a Swing Dance contest. The winners will receive a free T-shirt from the Voice. Make sure that you are there and ready to dance.

Blood Drive

Article written by Mike Ray

On Friday a blood drive was held at WSC. The Student Center was the location for this event. WSC students came through with 15 units of blood. Although not the number that St. Vincent's was looking for, it was accepted and thanked a thousand times over. I also gave blood to this cause.

After the day was over and they started packing up, they noted some precautions people should take that some had seemed to forget about:

- Eat a meal at least 2 hours before giving.
- After giving, always lay there for about fifteen minutes and do not get up too fast because your body adjusting to the loss of blood.
- Eat something after you give, even if you are still full from eating before you gave.
- Drink a lot of fluids the rest of the day so your body can replenish the lost fluid.
- Don't do any strenuous activities for the rest of the day after giving blood.

For a small price of having a needle in your arm for about fifteen minutes, you can be assured it is helping many people. What better thing to giving blood is there besides giving you the excuse for being lazy the rest of the day. You also get the benefit of knowing that you are probably saving someone's life with your contribution.

If you were seriously hurt and needed a blood transfusion, wouldn't you be grateful to the person who gave the blood that saved your life? I like to think that there is someone out in the world right now that I saved because of my contribution. Giving the gift of life is the best gift anyone could give to someone else. --

Around the Campus: Getting to know your Professors

Article written by Glen W. McEntire

In an effort to familiarize W.S.C. students with the college faculty, The Student Voice will be running an intermittent series profiling professors in each department.

During my first full-time semester at the college, I had the good fortune to register late for classes. I say 'good fortune' because it afforded me the opportunity to take courses that I probably would not have taken otherwise, and opened the door to encountering some very interesting course matter, and even more interesting faculty members.

The Communications Department at W.S.C. impressed me as being top-notch and peopled by a very dedicated, professional staff. For this reason, I have chosen two Communications professors who I am familiar with to begin the Around the Campus series: Professors Donald Bullens and Alta Carroll.

Donald F. Bullens, Assistant Professor, Department Chair.

As I turn into the Communications Department door, I am greeted by rock and roll music wafting from Professor Bullens' office. I have no chance to announce my presence as I walk through the door and see the professor with his back to me and fidgeting with the computer controls to adjust the sound. I didn't have to force a smile. Professor Bullens is a cool guy. Sings in a rock band called the Coyotes. The music coming from the p.c. was his and it is good stuff! Icing on the cake for an interviewer. Professor Bullens is a very engaging and genial person, a regular guy, and I was at ease with him right off the mark.

Question: You have a rock band professor?
Answer: Yes. It's something I do on the side. I sing in a band and I write songs.

Question: Is it a rock band? Country?
Answer: Yeah. Country and western. Country rock...mainly pop.

Question: Who put the band together?
Answer: Actually I did. It was done on a whim. It was never really meant to be anything serious. It was just on a lark. The guys in the band are friends from way back when. Now everybody has full time job. The drummer owns his own restaurant in Boston. The lead guitarist works in computer graphics in a large company. So it's something that's been a passion for everybody, but we never really put it together. The band has been in existence since the 70's but we stopped. Everyone obviously got careers and jobs. But recently we just started playing again. Henry, the lead guitarist, has a studio. We recorded some material, put it up on this web page and people have been downloading it so...we're playing again. This isn't what you planned to interview me on is it?

Me: No. But this is great! This is great! I wonder how many students know they have a hip professor here?

Professor Bullens: (Laughing). We can go back to what you wanted to do. If you want to go to a different dimension, we can do that. We are very fortunate in this department. I'm very pleased with all the new faculty that we have here. Relatively speaking, this is a new department in the sense of the faculty; the turnover. We have three new faculty and we're hiring a new one for the fall.

Question: Has this always been your vocation professor?

Answer: Well, I went to school to teach. Prior to this I was an administrator, I spent some time in public relations. During this period, I did some free-lance photography and video production in the community of Worcester. Live tape shows for various agencies and things of that nature.

Question: I know you were an adjunct professor. How long have you been teaching full time now?

Answer: (Laughing). Long time now. Long time. Twenty...Twenty five years full time.

Question: So how many years have you been with Worcester State College?

Answer: (Again laughing). I started when I was three. I've been with the college for twenty-eight years.

Question: Can you tell us something about your professional background?

Answer: I taught in the public school systems. I went out to school out on the West Coast for awhile. I've taken courses at the University of Massachusetts, The Massachusetts College of Art and also the Art Institute of San Francisco.

Question: Did you originally plan a career in Art?

Answer: Originally, I wanted to teach in the public schools. When I was working here, I ran the audio-visual department. That was becoming very popular, the whole concept of reel-to-reel video was out and I just took a liking to that.

Question: So, you're not talking about the performing arts?

Answer: No. The visual arts. Video production, photography. After I got interested in photography, I began doing free-lance photography and then video and film, going back to school for courses in those areas.

Question: Are you teaching photography right now professor?

Answer: I haven't taught photography for four or five years now but don't you think that a certain amount of dialogue and interaction with the professor is sacrificed as a consequence? You can't really ask a question on the spot.

Answer: Well, there are some drawbacks, but it's funny you mentioned about asking a question on the spot. In many cases you have more contact with the professor through distance learning than you would in the classroom. For example, I'm here during my class, I'm here

during my office hour, but through distance learning, anytime that I'm on the computer, you can email or setup the opportunity for more dialogue...it's how it's used. It certainly has a long way to go and there is something about the interaction (in the classroom) that I like. I'm not a complete convert to this style. I'd like to see some sort of merging of the classroom contact with the distance learning. Often students who will not readily respond in the classroom will respond through the internet. You could then use the information you used through distance learning in the classroom. So it's a way to get people out of their shell sometimes rather than putting people in a shell. I like to keep it in perspective, the computer is a tool, it's not the answer for all our problems in education. It's a tool and you can use it effectively...or ineffectively.

Question: So are you teaching full time or part time now. How does your position as Department Chair affect your job?

Answer: As Department Chair I have a reduced load and this semester I'm teaching three courses, day and evening.

Question: What differences do you find between the day and evening courses from a teaching perspective? How about the age differences between days and evenings? Are evening students still traditionally older and day students younger?

Answer: I think it used to be the evening students were all older and the day students were all younger. That's changed. There are day students here that take the night courses, so there really isn't much difference any longer between the two groups. And it's nice, I like seeing the mix. There's a nice energy that occurs in those kinds of classes.

Question: Communications as a major seems to be growing and getting more popular all the time. To what do you attribute this growth?

Answer: There are several reasons: One, it is a growing field nationally with opportunities for students graduating college. Also, it's growing here at Worcester State because of the faculty. I really have to give the faculty a lot of credit. They are real committed, dedicated faculty that are going above and beyond. I can't say enough about them.

Remarking on the faculty, I commented to Professor Bullens about Professor Carroll's teaching methods: How she has a very distinctive and effective approach with her teaching style that incorporates a format encouraging and requiring students to learn on a class, team and an individual level. Selfless and true to form, Professor Bullens once again gave the lion's share of credit to all of his faculty.

They all do. As I'm saying, the style here is wonderful.

- In the next installment of Around the Campus, an interview with Professor Alta Carroll. --

17 Student Leaders Visit MCLA

by Shawn Hutson

On April 8, 17 students from WSC visited Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (formerly North Adams State College) for a leadership conference.

After the 2 1/2 hour drive and some "hairpin turns," the students started with breakfast and a motivational speaker that got

them up and moving. The morning activity included looking for other student leaders by a bingo card, singing silly songs, and touching other people's body parts. The students then broke off into leadership groups which included relaxation techniques, effective meetings, a diversity workshop, body awareness, and getting to know your group.

Once we were done eating an

elaborate lunch of anything we wanted, we had some free time where most students roamed around the campus and congregated in the temple for our keynote speaker. The keynote speaker was Judith I. Gill, acting Chancellor of the Board of Education. Chancellor Gill spoke of the days when she was a student leader at UMASS-Amherst and the obstacles she had to face.

To end the day, the students gathered in the basement of temple for an ice cream social and a raffle. While there, Andrea Wambolt was recognized and applauded for the wonderful job she has done sitting on the Board of Trustees.

Renowned Clairvoyant visits WSC

By Shawn Hutson

The Student Events Committee presented world renowned clairvoyant Pat Gagliardo visited Worcester State College on Tuesday, April 4. She talked to the audience for about an hour and a half about being a clairvoyant and helping them to see auras.

Gagliardo started out talking about her life as a clairvoyant and how she started out not believing anything like that. Today, she has helped out with hundreds of police cases, including a missing person in Connecticut who was lost in Long Island Sound.

She gave her point of view on the OJ Simpson case, and the Jon Benet Ramesy case. Gagliardo thinks that Simpson murdered Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, and that Mrs. Ramesy has a bad

temper and killed Jon Benet, the father didn't know anything about it, and then was told. She didn't think that the little brother had anything to do with it at all.

In the interactive session, she had the audience seeing auras. The whole time that she spoke, she stood in front of a white screen. Those who could, saw certain colors surrounding her. Gagliardo told the students how to breathe deeply and exhale all of the bad vibes out of them.

She then had students from the audience stand in front of the screen and do the breathing exercise. She told them what colors were around them, and what they mean. In the end, she told them that they could do anything that they can set their mind to. --

Two Internationally Renowned Persons to be present at WSC's Commencement

Article written by Mike Ray

The Class of 2000 at Worcester State College is in for treat when their Commencement ceremony will include the likes of screen star, Danny Glover and internationally renowned cultural activist Dr. Augusto Boal. Danny Glover will be the celebrity guest during the 125th Anniversary Gala Celebration on May 19th at the Worcester Centrum Centre and the Class of 2000 Commencement speaker on May 20th. Danny Glover will be receiving an honorary doctorate of Humane Letters and Dr. Augusto Boal will receive an honorary doctorate of Fine Arts.

Danny Glover is one of Hollywood's most noted leading men. His accomplishments include the *Lethal Weapon* series, *Places in the Heart*, the award winning *To Sleep with Anger*, *The Color Purple*, *Escape from Alcatraz* and *Gone Fishin'*, only to name a few. Glover is also a powerful person off-screen as an advocate for literacy and education. He is also well known for his many humanitarian efforts to improve the lives of people throughout the world. Glover has served on the board of many human rights organizations including Human Rights watch and Amnesty International. As an activist, he received the first annual William Kunstler Racial Justice Award for his work on a variety of social issues including the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. The list of Danny Glover's accomplishments goes on and on and keeps growing with every year. The honorary doctorate he will receive at commencement will only add to his list of honors and accomplishments that include honors like two NAACP Image Awards, three Cable Ace Awards, and the Phoenix Award

from the Black American Cinema Society.

The 2000 Commencement will also have another internationally known persona. Dr. Augusto Boal is a Brazilian-born theatrical revolutionary and cultural activist. He received his doctorate at Columbia University and returned to Brazil to work with the Arena Theatre in Sao Paulo, where his work led to the experimentation with new forms of theatre that had an extraordinary impact on traditional practice. Because of this work, he drew attention as a cultural activist and was arrested, tortured and exiled to Argentina shortly after publishing his first book in the 1971, *The Theatre of the Oppressed*. He then moved to Paris where he continued to teach his revolutionary approach to theater that led to the first International Festival of the Theatre of the Oppressed in 1980. In 1986, Boal returned to Rio do Janeiro where he continues to reside now and continued his work for community-based performances. In 1997, Dr. Boal was awarded the Career Achievement Award by the Association for Theatre in Higher Education. He travels around the world to make his process available to as many people as possible.

In addition to receiving an honorary doctorate from Worcester State College, Augusto Boal will be holding a workshop of *Theater of the Oppressed* in the Sullivan Auditorium, May 16-19. Registration is required. Contact the Department of Visual and Performing Arts for more information.

With all that said, most of us at WSC will not even hear about this again until we return next semester unless you are one of the many graduates this year or will be attending the commencement for other reasons. --

Lip Sync! Co-Sponsored DELTA & The Student Voice!

Have fun while helping out a good cause and have the chance to make some money! Sign up with your friends and/or organization for our Lip Sync. You can win up to \$300 in cash prizes!! All proceeds from admissions will benefit the Rape Crisis Center of Worcester. Donations are appreciated!!! If you don't want to compete, at least come in and have a great time while doing a good deed. This show will be MC'd by Miss Lady Sabrina (aka Troy.) May 4th in the Blue Lounge @ 7:00pm. For more details or to sign up please email WSC_Delta@yahoo.com or sign up outside the Delta office on the 3rd floor of the Student Center.

Women and Science Conference

Article written by Gizel Hampton

The Women's Studies Program of Worcester State College sponsored a two day Women and Science Conference here at WSC on April 13th and 14th. Worcester State's President, Kalyan Ghosh, gave a warm welcome to the audience. President Ghosh, who also has a science background, stated that he is pleased with the work and awareness that the Women's Studies Program is bringing to WSC. He pleaded to the women in the audience to not just casually listen to the speakers, but to 'take the message to heart.' The conference featured some of the most dynamic and respectable women who are currently serving in the science field.

Vivian W. Pinn, M.D., Associate Director for Research on Women's Health at the National Institute of Health, served as the keynote speaker at Thursday's conference. She stressed the need for women to become more aware of the health issues that not only concerns them, but men and children as well. The fact that a lot of women are caretakers in their families, they need to be aware of the changing population around them. She challenges the women to expand their knowledge of the various issues that affect women, by taking part in meetings that are addressing women's issues. She also stressed the importance of mentoring among women, that they can make a difference when they strive together for a common good. To think of the needs that are specific to the population such as the medically underserved, ethnic minorities, adolescents and domestic violence and abuse among women. Pinn, who was the only female graduate in her class, advised the women to continue to strive for their goals despite any obstacles they may face. She concluded that in order for the women to be successful, they must 'be prepared, have a vision, aim high, aim well and aim with confidence.'

Sheila Tobias, author, lecturer and activist, captured the audience with her wit, enthusiasm and knowledge of women's issues. Beginning with a workshop dealing with Math Anxiety, she was able to identify key areas that are or have been preventing women from excelling in mathematics and science such as criticism from peers, being told that they are dumb, they're not good enough or that they will never do well in math or science. She focused on dispelling certain myths about mathematics by accentuating the facts and positives of math. She also provided the audience with a self-test to determine their strengths, weaknesses or anxieties regarding math. She instilled in the minds of the audience that they can be whatever they want to be, by believing in themselves and having the confidence that they can succeed. Ms. Tobias often incorporated math or science cartoons into her presentation to reinforce a specific objective or thought. In a later lecture, Tobias discussed 'Women in Science & Women and Science.' She talked about some of the prejudices that many women are faced with. She also discussed some of the milestones and barriers that have been achieved by women over the past three decades including the equal pay act and discrimination of unemployment. Overall, Ms. Tobias provided an awareness that will be beneficial to all women, not only by providing them with an education, but a hope leading to the fulfillment of goals and dreams.

If you would like further information about Sheila Tobias and her work, you can obtain additional information from the Women's Studies Program or you may purchase some of her books in the WSC bookstore.

A panel Women Scientists in Academia was held to discuss various roles of women in science. Included in the panel

were Gabriel Kass- Simon, Associate Professor of Zoology, University of Rhode Island, Gail Gasparich, Assistant Professor of Biology, Towson University, Maureen M. Julian, Adjunct Professor and Senior Research Scientist, Department of Geological Science, Virginia Institute of Technology and Susan A. Everson, Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan School of Public Health.

Also featured in the conference was a variety of scientific work that was conducted by the students and faculty of WSC. In addition to the scientific work, there were numerous photographic exhibits of women scientists including WSC's own women in science. Also pictured were Annie Jump Cannon, Astronomer who catalogued over 300,000 stars. The classifying system she developed remains in use to this day. Shirley A. Jackson, Theoretical Physicist who became the first black woman to earn a Ph.D in Physics. Olive Hazlett, mathematician who was referred to as, "the most prolific of all the American women working in mathematics before 1940." Barbara McClintock, a Geneticist who was responsible for the discovery of zea mays (maize) and worked on the transposition of genetic elements that revealed that the elements can move from one chromosome to another referred to as 'jumping beans.' She also became the first woman to win the Nobel Prize in medicine for work accomplished without a collaborator.

The conference was attended by a variety of individuals including Worcester State's own faculty and students, and educators from various schools. Also in attendance were six ninth-grade students from North High School. Their math teacher Ms. Christina Gamble, and their Guidance Counselor Ms. Margarita Delgado accompanied the students. The following are the names of the students and their career goals: Dolly Mamunda, Claudia Montaya and Esperanza Robert, engineers; Hanh Vo, math teacher; Sharita Langston, Physician; and Anna Leto, undecided. Ms. Delgado along with other faculty members at the school, are committed to providing the students with exposure to various careers in science. Along with the education that is being provided, the school also has a mentoring program for the students. For those of you who are science or math majors and is looking for an extracurricular activity or some kind of volunteer work, here is an opportunity for you. If you are interested in mentoring, you may contact Ms. Delgado at 508-799-3373. Thanks in advance for your help.

Bravo to Professor Kristin Waters and all the women in science who helped to provide this meaningful and educational conference to all. Job well done! --

Want to jump out of a perfectly good airplane?

The tentative day for a skydiving trip is Sunday May 7th. Contact the Student Activities desk for further information, regarding cost, location, and time. ^_^

Well Known Pianist Performs at Worcester State

Article written by Mike Ray

One the evening of April 18, Worcester State College was honored by the performance of a well known pianist by the name of Jung-Ja Kim. She is a Korean born woman whom started playing piano and was already building a great reputation at only 11 years of age. She attended Julliard School of Music in the United States to complete her undergraduate and graduate studies. Jung-Ja Kim has appeared with such orchestras as The New York Philharmonic, the Civic Symphony of Boston and has performed solo at places like Carnegie Hall and the Metropolitan Museum of Art to name a few.

Jung-Ja played with much energy to the works of Schubert, Ravel, Copland and Schumann. She is noted as being very mature when it comes to her playing, and it shows through her performance. By looking at her play, you can tell there is much power behind her small hands. At some points, you think that she might mess something up because her hands are moving so fast and elegantly across the keys. Another thing that added to the excitement was the great sound quality that resonated throughout the theater with the Steinway & Sons piano she played upon.

The evening was very enjoyable with much thanks to a joint effort between Royal Academy for Music & Performing Arts and Worcester State College. This being the fifth concert in the series, they very much find the need to continue with future artists and play at the Administration Theater that had been renovated two years ago to house such events. Students in could probably look for more events like this for many years to come. --

Dreams

Juan Matos Jr.

I'm standing on home plate and my eyes are fixed on a spot behind center field. I can see the monuments erected in memory of those great players. I can swear that Babe Ruth is looking at me. I can feel the memories this places holds; World Series, pennant chases, no-hitters. This is Yankee Stadium, this is baseball and somewhere in Heaven my grandmother is smiling. I am seventeen years old and I'm standing on home plate at Yankee Stadium, yes, there is a god, and he loves baseball.

After the tower, we get ready to practice. The PSAL (Public Schools Athletic League) baseball playoffs are in full swing and this year we play in Yankee Stadium. That's the one thing that kept us going all season. We opened our season against Park West, I threw a complete game, and we won 5-3 but the only thing we could talk about was being at Yankee Stadium. We demolished every team in our division. Once, against Brandeis, we were losing 6-3 in the seventh inning; their pitcher was having a field day with us until someone talked about playing at the Stadium. We rallied in the eight and won the game 11-7 in extra innings. In the end, we finished with 38 wins and only 5 losses a school records. I already see myself striking out every batter on the George Washington team, getting drafted by the Yankees and pitching a no-hitter against the Red Sox in front of my mom and my friends.

When I get home my mother smiles like she hasn't done in years, she hugs me and I feel the soap detergent in her hands when she touches my face. She's got thin, long fingers that are starting to turn white by the strength of the detergent they use at the restaurant. She has been tending tables and washing dishes at the restaurant on 181st street since eight this morning. We sit in front of the couch and watch TV while I answer questions about the stadium and school. I nod my head as she begins her sermon about school and college and how

important my education is. It's not that I don't listen, but if I had to choose between playing in the Leagues and spending four more years in school, I would take baseball in a heartbeat. Just before eleven she takes off her glasses and rubs her temple, "Make sure you bolt the door," she says as she makes her way down the narrow hallway that leads to her room. The glow of our small TV covers what passes as our living room. Two chairs, a small couch and an oversized coffee table. My trophies hold up pictures of relatives that I left behind when I came to the states. There's a pictures of me and my friends playing baseball in Barahona, our uniforms are ragged, the gloves are old and our sneakers have holes in them. I'm playing centerfield, the wall behind me is broken down in many places, bright colored billboards are fading into obscurity, grass has overrun the warning track. I check my watch and tune into ESPN. Now it's just me and SporsCenter; I watch highlights of Alex Rodriguez playing like Superman at shortstop, Moises Alou smacks another homerun, Pedro Martinez throws another shutout. Back in the island, this is all I dreamt about, playing in the big leagues, making money like the famous players do. One day I'll be the best pitcher in the Majors, I'll be able to buy my mom a house, any house she wants. I've been dreaming of that since the first time I played with my friends in the Dominican Republic; we would be George Bell, or Tony Fernandez while we swung broomsticks at water bottle caps.

I click the TV off and head to bed, separated from the rest of the living room by a shaky wall of plywood. The mattress is old and the springs dig into my back when we move. The shades can barely keep the streets out of the apartment. The music blasting from the drug dealers' cars sneaks through the window and the wind makes the curtains move. In Barahona, I used to spend an eternity staring at the stars; in Washington Heights, I cover my face from the glare of the lamppost. --

Editorial

By Juan Matos Jr.

Forums have been held, opinions have been voiced and statements have been issued. In the aftermath of the sexual assault scandal, the administration of Worcester State College is faced with the task of earning the students' confidence. The fate of those students alleged to be involved in the rape has been transferred to a court of law; it is out of our hands. This is a prime opportunity to reflect on the state of our school and to create an atmosphere of trust between the students and those who serve them. We can speculate and point fingers but, while this is happening, the same security flaws that existed a year ago when the incident took place have not yet been corrected.

Students have every right to be upset when important facts are kept from them. They eat, sleep and live here, and those of us who commute usually spend more time on campus than in our own homes. It is of paramount importance that the school administration begin to take the concerns of the students with more urgency. A "wait until later" mentality will not go a long way to mend hurt feelings and distrust. By the same token, students themselves have the right and the responsibility to talk to their professors or members of the staff whenever there is a problem.

Security is still an issue that needs to be adressed on this campus. As any student can admit to, there is no where near enough light around campus at night. Even on nights when the lights on the football field are on, the campus is not a safe place to walk alone. Also, it is not uncommon to see the gate house deserted at night. People can drive in and out of the school without being noticed. Some students have also voiced their concerns about lax security in the dorms as people can sometimes come and go and not have to sign their names.

We must all realize that we depend on each other for success here at Worcester State. The students need and deserve competent administrators, but it is unrealistic to expect the staff and the faculty to figure out what's best from the students without any input.

Talent Show Wednesday, April 26 7-9pm

SEC Presents the Annual Spring Week Talent Show

Prizes are:
\$100.00 for first Place
\$50.00 for Second Place and
\$25.00 for Third Place

Rules and Entry Forms
Can Be Picked Up at the
Info Desk or With Sue Rainville
Entry Deadline is April 21st

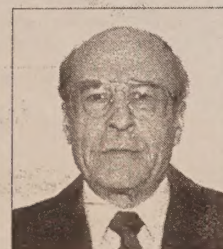
Arab Cultural Club

@ Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Speaker Event

The Cultural Contribution of
Medieval Islam to the west
Co.sponsored by the Muslim Student Association

The Speaker: Dr. Najib Saliba
Professor
Of History and Political
Science.
He got his PHD and Masters
Degree from University of
Michigan and his Bachelor's
degree from Miami University
oxford Ohio.



On Monday April 24, @ Gordon Library seminar
room-310, 5:30pm.

Contact [arabc@wpi.edu] for more info

Calendar

April 21

-- Kid's Fair

April 22

-- Citywide Earthday Fair in Greenhill Park

April 25

-- Clothesline Project, 10am-4pm, Exhibit Area
-- Caricaturist, 11am-3pm, Pub Patio
-- Fenway Park speaker, 8pm, Blue Lounge

April 26

--Talent Show, 7pm, N/S Aud., Free Admission

April 27

-- Spaghetti Wrestling, 4pm-6pm, SC Lawn.
-- Sauce Ball, 7pm, SC Lawn
-- Drive-In movie: Major League, 8:30pm or dusk, SC Lawn, No coolers please.

April 28

-- Semi-Formal, Pleasant Valley CC, Transportation provided, Free non-alcoholic beverages alcohol served with proper ID
7:30pm-12am

April 29

-- Live All Day, 12:30pm-5pm, Pub Patio with Funscofes, Crafts, and a cookout.

May 5

-- Day classes end

May 6

-- All Organization Banquet, 6pm-11pm, Black Orchid
-- WSC Chorus and Chorale concert, 7:30pm, Admin. Theater, \$8 for students and elders, \$10 for general admission

May 7

-- WSC Chorus and Chorale concert, 7:30pm, Milford Town Hall, \$8 for students and elders, \$10 for general admission

May 8

-- Evening, graduate classes end
-- Examinations begin- day classes

May 19

-- 125th Anniversary Gala Celebration, Worcester Centrum Centre

May 20

-- Class of 2000 Commencement Ceremony

Question of the Week

How do you prepare for finals?

Rachel Patrician Junior Communication Disorders
I study hard and try to get plenty of sleep.

Jean Charles Freshman Communications
Block out every distraction, friends, parties and just focus on my work.

Vanessa J. Coyne Junior/Senior Psychology/Urban Systems
I put on some Enya & Enigma, relax and study all night. Then I sleep all day after my exam.

Jacques Guerce Sophomore Business
"I wait until the last minute."

Katie King Sophomore Occupational Therapy
"I just study like I do for all other exams. They are all the same."

Corey Williams Junior Occupational Therapy
"I buy lots of ice cream (specially ice cream cakes), sit down at my computer, play a game, write, check email, write more, eat something, talk on the phone, stay up until 2am typing, try to go over notes, get distracted again, try to sleep, take a test thinking of chocolate to keep me awake."

Mike Charron Junior Communications
"I use the osmosis process. Just place your books or notebooks under your pillow when you go to bed. I've used this many times. It really works!"

Mike Matz Freshman Computer Science
"Trash whatever books or notes I currently have and research on my own."

Ilia Terova Sophomore Chemistry
"Make a plan of what I need to study. Sit for as many hours as needed, always with noise on the background, sometimes music. I prefer studying on the last day since everything is multiple choice.